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NEWS

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THE UNIVERSITY
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Midwest Gets Regional Medical Library Services

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MEDICAL
LIBRARY

The John Crerar Library, Chicago, has been designated the Midwest Regional Medical Library through a grant made under authority of the Medical Library Assistance Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-291). Announcement of the $150,000 grant for the new Regional Medical Library was made jointly by Martin M. Cummings, M.D., Director, National Library of Medicine, and Oliver W. Tuthill, President of the Crerar Library.

The Crerar Library will serve medical practitioners, researchers, and educators throughout the five-state area of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. It is one of a national system of regional medical libraries, a component of a biomedical communications network. This system is designed to make information services for activities related to practice, education, and research available to health professionals in all areas of the country.

Crerar's Regional Medical Library services will include document services; reference and bibliographic services; production of a union catalog of books and a union list of periodicals in the biomedical collections of libraries in the region served. When trained personnel are available, Crerar will formulate computer searches of the biomedical journal literature to be processed by MEDLARS (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System) at the National Library of Medicine.

The Midwest Regional Medical Library is the fourth of a proposed network of nine or ten to be operational by 1970. The Francis A. Countway Library, Boston, designated the New England Regional Medical Library, has been operational since October 1967. Awards to the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia as the Mid-Eastern Regional Medical Library, and the Health Sciences Library of the University of Washington, Seattle, as the Pacific Northwest Regional Medical Library were announced in June 1968.

The John Crerar Library is a free public library of science, technology, and medicine serving the scientific community in Chicago and throughout the Midwest. The Crerar Library has had extensive experience in regional information and document services in all fields covered by its collections. Its services have been widely used by professional schools, hospitals, and industrial organizations for more than seventy years.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
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New Exhibit on Blood Transfusion

A new exhibit illustrating highlights of the history of blood transfusion opened in the lobby of the National Library of Medicine on September 23rd. In addition to material showing current practices in the field, the exhibit includes pictures illustrating early blood transfusion apparatus and techniques, important historical volumes from the collection of the Library's History of Medicine Division, and a number of implements used during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Pictorial material includes the first illustration of an intravenous injection in man taken from J.S. Elsholtz *Clysmatica nova*, published in Berlin in 1667. Also on display are volumes containing the first description of blood transfusion by Andreas Libavius (1546-1616) and an article by Nobel prize winner Dr. Karl Landsteiner, who in 1901 described the existence of distinct blood types (the present A, B, and O).

Among the actual blood transfusion apparatus on display is a metal blood warming device designed by Dr. Thomas G. Morton in the late 19th century. Blood was stored in a conical container surrounded by hot water and stirred with broom whisks to prevent coagulation.

Modern training techniques in the area of blood preservation and blood grouping are depicted in an illuminated panel on loan from the Army Research and Development Laboratory, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The exhibit is open to the public through December 20th during the Library's regular hours: 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday.

PERSONNEL

William H. Caldwell has been appointed Deputy Chief of the Bibliographic Services Division, succeeding Mr. F. Wilfrid Lancaster, who is now Special Assistant to the Associate Director for Library Operations. Mr. Caldwell was previously with the Drug Literature Program.

James H. Cassedy, Ph.D., has joined the staff of the History of Medicine Division. He is primarily responsible for the annual *Bibliography of the History of Medicine*. Dr. Cassedy has just returned from two years in Paris, where he was Deputy Chief of the Office of International Research, NIH. Previous to this he served as the Executive Secretary of the History of Life Sciences Study Section, NIH.

Samuel T. Waters has been named Acting Deputy Associate Director for Library Operations, succeeding Mr. James P. Riley, who accepted a position with the University of Chicago Library as the Associate Director for Library Operations. Mr. Waters will also continue as the Chief of the Reference Services Division.

OCES Reorganization

As stated in the August issue, the *News* will continue to keep you informed of any changes in the Library's programs.

The Office of Computer and Engineering Services (OCES) is now directly responsible to the Office of the Director so it may best provide services for all programs in the Library.

Its mission is self-explanatory in the operations of the four sections under direction of Mr. Alfred Asch, Chief of the Office and Mr. Allan Doris, Deputy Chief.

The Project Management Staff has formed to take primary responsibility for evolving implementation plans for the development of MEDLARS II. Included in this responsiblity is the establishment of documentation requirements and standards and development of evaluation criteria and procedures for the MEDLARS II system. The staff will also provide coordination between NLM and the contractor, Computer Sciences Corporation, (*NLM News*, August 1968); monitor and evaluate contractor performance to insure quality products and fulfillment of contract schedules and objectives; coordinate and integrate MEDLARS II system development efforts of other sections of OCES and NLM; and control MEDLARS II design changes and new systems requirements. The Assistant Chief for Project Management is Mrs. Barbara Sternick.

The Processing Support Section, headed by Mr. William Smith, operates and maintains digital computer, phototypesetting, and related data processing equipment and handles preparation of input data in machine-readable form for computer processing. It also performs production and quality control for NLM machine-based operations and produces and distributes magnetic tapes to MEDLARS Search Centers and other authorized users in the U.S. and abroad.

The Systems Application Section, with Mr. John Walden as Section Head, performs systems analysis for the support of the NLM mission and translates functional requirements into computer programs. The staff also performs program maintenance on operational systems and prepares system and computer operations documentation and other technical material. It gives data processing technical interface with MEDLARS centers; general technical support in the field of data processing to other organizations within NLM; and manages contractor assistance for systems analysis and maintenance of system application programs.

Completing the organization set-up is the System Development Section, under Mrs. Barbara Sternick as Acting Section Chief. This Section reviews computer technology, advanced data manipulation techniques and systems, advanced and current operating systems, support software systems, data management systems, languages, and compilers, and makes recommendations on their use within NLM. It provides NLM with systems software, then tests and directs its use in the computing facility. This element is responsible for providing and coordinating user and technical systems training.

Third Associate Program Begins

The National Library of Medicine Associate Program for 1968/69 (*News*, August 1968) began on September 3. From left: Miss Leona H. Farrell, Mr. Sheldon Kotzin and Miss Kay V. Mayfield.

New NLM Literature Searches

Single copies of the following new bibliographies are available on request to the Office of Public Information, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014. They should be ordered by number. Please do not send requests on interlibrary loan forms.

L.S. NO.	TITLE
9-68	Ethical and legal aspects of transplantation. Mid-1963-December 1967. (40 citations)
10-68	The thymus and immunity. November 1965 - July 1968. (394 citations in English and French)
11-68	Transplantation of intestines and stomach. 1964 - July 1968. (46 citations)
12-68	Effects of noise on man. January 1964 - July 1968. (173 citations in English)
13-68	Effect of progestational hormones and estrogens on fertility and fetal development. January 1964 - June 1968. (209 citations)
14-68	Etiology and epidemiology of infectious mononucleosis. January 1964 - July 1968. (39 citations)

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